

# Safety Bulletin



## Pedestrians, Vehicle Traffic and Crosswalks SB04-006

Recently, a 4ID Soldier was struck by a vehicle while crossing the street. Fortunately, the Soldier did not receive life-threatening injuries. Each major installation averages one vehicle to pedestrian accident a year. This average could be lessened, if everyone would follow the procedures that need to be used in areas with a high density of pedestrian and vehicles, such as North Ave., Hell On Wheels Ave., Old Ironsides Ave., and Battalion Ave. Pedestrians and vehicle operators should follow the State Uniform Traffic Codes, which are enforced on the Installation.

### **Pedestrian Responsibilities:**

- A pedestrian using a crosswalk DOES NOT have an absolute right-of-way against moving vehicles.
- No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.
- Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point, shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon entering the roadway.

### **Vehicle Operators Responsibilities:**

- The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way; slow down or stop, if need be, to yield to pedestrians crossing the roadways within a crosswalk.
- The driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way when the pedestrian is entering the roadway, upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger.
- When vehicles stop at a marked or unmarked crosswalk or an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the vehicle approaching from the rear, no matter which lane, shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicles.

Both pedestrians and vehicle operators need to use “reasonable judgment” and be prepared to yield to one another. Neither have the exclusive right-of-way. Remember, it is not true that pedestrians can start crossing a street at any time or location and expect moving vehicles to stop.